AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

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The A. F. of L. Weekly News Letter contains a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and such other information as will benefit the trade union movement.

AGITATE ! EDUCATE ! ORGANIZE !

SEAMEN'S WAGE RATE DON'T HARM SHIPPING

Washington, March 28—In a report to the United States shipping board on his recent mission abroad, Edward N. Hurley, chairman of the board, demolishes the claim of vessel owners, editors and others who insist that high wages and the seamen's new law are the ruination of America's merchant marine. He says:

"My observations abroad convince me that there are no adequate reasons why American shipping under the present high standards of wages and conditions of life she has adopted for her seamen.

Chairman Hurley says the facts in his paragraph "will disprove to all persons who are agitating for a lower scale on American ships."

"We are paying our seamen $75 a month," he declares. "That fact is well known and frequently commented upon. England during the war paid her seamen $72 a month. That fact is not so well known. The British ships are manned by English men today. So much has been said regarding the cheap eastern labor that makes it possible for British ships to operate at a great profit that I deem it wise that you should know that practically every maritime nation of the earth has now turned toward the conclusion that it is better to operate their own ships with labor of their own citizens.

"The war has witnessed a great falling off of the foreign labor employed under nearly all flags.

"It is my conviction that the future will witness a development of this tendency along these lines in every more nationalistic."

Chairman Hurley says that France and Holland are paying high wages to their merchant sailors and that the rate in Sweden is even higher than that of the United States.

"Seamen of the world are well organized in whatever country you may choose for an example. They have behind them a long history of failure, of constant danger and of rigid and tyrannical discipline. They have shared recently in the humanitarian benefits of a new civilization. They will never go back to the old order. No forward-looking man would ask it. No one who understands the force and power and value of the men who labor on merchant ships can expect it.

"The cost of living has not yet gone down for these men who performed such valiant services upon the seas. England has continued her war bonus as a wage increase.

"Wages form but a part of the issue of the seamen's situation. The living conditions of living aboard ship and the recognition of the rights of seamen even upon the sea overshadow the wage questions. A high and advanced position has been accorded by the congress in recognition of the rights and prerogatives of seamen."

ANDY McANDREW JAILED.

Winston-Salem, N. C., March 29.—Andrew McAndrew, president of the Tobacco Workers' International Union, and James Brown, A. F. of L. organizer, were arrested in this city for "soliciting insurance" without securing a $5,000 bond.

The authorities protested that they were organizing tobacco workers and not selling insurance, but were told that the Tobacco Workers' Union is sick and death benefits. Later the unionists were released on bail.

On behalf of the American Federation of Labor Secretary Frank Morrison forwarded a long telegraphic protest against the arrests to the governor. The unionists secured counsel and took the matter up with the state fire insurance commissioner, who ruled against his deputy and held that the insurance law does not apply to trade unions.

In this city is located the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco company, manufacturers of the famous Albert Prince tobacco. This concern is notoriously anti-union and anti-union and local trade unionists declare that "it owns the town."

LABOR DEMANDS CHANGES.

Washington, March 29.—A commission of business men, sent abroad by the United States department of labor to investigate conditions, made a preliminary report cabled from London:

"The importance of the London strikes evidently lies in their meaning, as they erected not merely a London ultimatum but by the entire British people, but the strikes are understood to mean only in part a specific demand for shorter hours and other concessions, as they more largely are a threat as to the course labor would pursue if the conditions of living and investment were not changed along entirely new lines favorable to the laboring interests."

DISCUSS CHILD WELFARE.

Washington, March 25.—Experiences from the war regarding minimum standards for the health, education and work of children will be considered at a conference of American and European authorities to be held in Washington, beginning April 8, under the children's bureau of the department of labor.

Secretary of Labor Wilson has asked several children's authorities in Great Britain, France and Belgium to attend the conference.

VOTES FOR WOMEN.

Augusta, Me., March 29.—The Maine legislature has passed a resolution which permits women to vote for presidential electors.

Des Moines, Iowa, March 28.—The state legislature has passed a measure proposing full woman suffrage in Iowa through constitutional amendment. The measure must be approved by the next legislature before it can be submitted to a popular vote.

PRESSMEN RAISE WAGES.

Columbus, Ga., March 27.—Printing pressmen in order unanimously have raised wages $6.50 a week; cylinder feeders, $2.50; and web pressmen, $3.75 to $5.75.

Muncie, Ind., March 29.—Organized printing pressmen and feeders have secured substantial increases.

TEACHERS ORGANIZING.

San Diego, Cal., March 29.—Trade unionists are discussing organization with public teachers in this city, many of whom are agreed on the value of collective action.

"SAVING THE NATION."

Hartford, Conn., March 29.—A state legislative committee has reported favorably a bill to license Connecticut cats. It is claimed that the cats disturb sleep.

COOPERS UNITING.

Little Rock, Ark., March 29.—Coopers in this city are discussing trade unionism. A mass meeting was held, at which this purpose was attended by a large number of these workers.

MANY PHONES IN U. S.

Washington, March 29.—One out of every two families in this country had a telephone in 1917, according to a report made by the United States census bureau.

PRINTER-LAW MAKER SCORES INJUNCTION

Springfield, Ill., March 28.—The committee on judiciary of the Illinois house of representatives has made a favorable report on the Soderstrom anti-injunction bill. The author of the bill—E. G. Soderstrom—is a member of the Streator Typographical union, and was drafted by a nonpartisan movement of trade unionists and sympathizers to replace a well-known reactionary.

In urging the committee to favor his bill, the printer-lawmaker made a thorough grasp of this judge-made law and left no room for doubt as to where he stands.

He declared that trade unionists insist that the injunction law be used for purposes originally intended—where statutory law does not apply. If property is used, he said, the writ may be useful and necessary. Trade unionists object when it is used by a judge in cases that can be reached through statutory law, that is, limited workers by a law which acts as a law maker, judge and executioner.

"In a civil action," said Representative Soderstrom, "the amount should not be greater than the actual damages, but by injunction a man who unintentionally does the same offense for which civil action is brought, is punishable by fine or imprisonment, according to the discretion of the court.

"In a criminal action the law specifies the maximum punishment, but if the same offense is committed in violation of a temporary injunction, issued without a hearing, or without personal service, the punishment may be whatever the judge decrees.

"Disobedience to injunction is no appeal, and even if an appeal is taken upon the question of the jurisdiction of the court issuing the injunction, it is possible that the active men of affairs may lie in jail during the appeal."

PROTECT STRIKEBREAKERS.

Kansas City, Mo., March 29.—The Kansas City Railway company, in advertising overtime to "protect" the interest of strikebreakers who have taken the places of strcet car employes. The latter suspended work when the company refused to accept decisions by the national war labor board.

The majority stockholder in this company is J. Ogden Armour, Chicago meat packer, and his subordinates in this city announce an "educational" and "social welfare system for the strikebreakers. The first "uplift" has been to raise the wages 2½ cents an hour. At the same time cut off a bonus of $1 a month. This transaction the company cleans up 50 cents a week on each employe. But to show that it has the interest of these strikebreakers at heart the company announces that "in addition to enabling its employes to secure sick and accident insurance benefits it will contribute toward the cost of the insurance 50 cents per month per employe."

There are a whole lot of other good things in store for the strikebreakers, if they remain. The company's press agent. A bank will be established. And a hotel. Unless shall have more than it earned."

PACKERS ARE PROSPEROUS.

Chicago, March 29.—The publication of the annual income tax return of a company, the last of the "big five" meat packers to announce its figures for 1918, gives the total sum paid by the Chicago packers as running upward of $1,000,000,000 for that year.

This is half a liberty loan. Measured against the steel trust, for the year 1918, the total valuation of products by all the United States steel companies for that year amounted to $1,-687,962,652.

Gross sales of the five packers are reported by them as follows: Armour, $965,000,000; Cudahy, $295,000,000; Morris, $200,000,000; Swift, $1,200,000,000; Wilson $400,000,000; total, $2,217,000,00.

Total net profits of the five packers for the year, according to their annual reports, run something over $50,-000,000. Swift, $15,000,000; followed Armour, $15,247,527.53; Cudahy, $2,376,-986; Morris, $4,217,858.84; Swift (12 months), $13,000,000; Wilson, $7,-631,535.21; total), $51,631,217.60.

REFUSE TO CONFER.

Richmond, Va., March 29.—Electrical workers in this city are engaged in a fine illustration of autocracy by a refusal to meet the state commissioner of labor and a committee of the workers in an effort to adjust a strike that threatens their electrical service. The state official made the request and was flatly informed that there was no reason for our members to meet to any one but the men who have so many years employed as we can possibly work, with a good many more calling for an opportunity to get to work.

A year ago those contractors were reported by their threats using the word "freedom and justice between men."

UNUSUAL LIABILITY AWARD.

Altoona, Pa., March 29.—To be awarded $10 for every tooth in the lurries sustained in fighting a fire in his own house is the unusual experience of Samuel Smith, an employe of a local limestone company.

Smith's home, owned by the company, was discovered in flames while the latter was at work. Smith ran to fight the fire and save his goods, and was injured when a can of oil being carried over the building exploded. Referee Snyder, compensation official, holds the injury was sustained on company time.

OPPOSES MOVIE CENSORS.

Madison, Wis., March 29.— Editor Irvine of the Wisconsin Labor News his wrath to swat the censor pest in the Wisconsin legislature who wants to sit in judgment on the movies. The editor man says:

"This espionage, spying, censorship and amateur sleuthing which has poked its nose into every phase of life in the United States during the last year is a practice that is foreign to American ideals and traditions."

PASS WOMEN'S LABOR LAW.

Albany, N. Y., March 29.—The first labor law passed by the present state legislature provides for the creation of a bureau of women in industry in the state department of labor. The bill carries appropriations of $2,500 for a chief, $3,000 for five investigators and $900 for a stenographer.

PAINTERS RAISE WAGES.

Davenport, Iowa, March 26.—Organized painters in this city and in Rock Island and Moline, Ill., have secured wage increases, and a minimum wage of 75 cents an hour.

P. O. CHIEF ADVANCES SAYS TRADE UNIONIST

Washington, March 28.—In a letter to Secretary of Labor Wilson, Postmaster General Burleson says he's "fair" to telephone and telegraph workers and that the present turmoil is the result of being led by a few "agitators." The postal official says that inadequate wage rates in his department are being equalized as rapidly as possible.

James Wilson-Tyneside Flaherty of the National Federation of Postal Employes, makes this comment on the letter:

"Postal employes have won a most unexpected victory, because they can show that in Mr. Burleson's seven years as postmaster general he has progressed to the point where he acknowledges that there are inadequate wage rates in his department. A short time ago he was talking about the high wages in his department and told congress, in his annual report, that the postal worker was better off than the soldier in Flanders trenches.

"Every agitator will congratulate Mr. Burleson on his progress. The postal chief, however, has a poor opinion of his subordinates when he continues that a few 'agitators' can put a ring in their nose and lead them around. Mr. Burleson has complimented these subordinates last Christmas for their self sacrifice and devotion to duty.

"The countless liberty-loving Americans in all walks of life will be subjected to present policies of the postoffice department should be happy to find that the court has upheld the fruit in the most unexpected places."

MACKAY IS OUSTED.

Washington, March 29.—Clarence H. Mackay, president of the Postal Telegraph company, together with other chief officers, has been ousted from Postmaster General Burleson. The action was taken because of the strike cause of a refusal to "obey orders." A. F. Adams, president of the Kansas City Southern Railway company, is placed in charge of the properties.

Last January Mr. Burleson removed Edward Reynolds, vice president and general manager of the Postal, on the ground that he was obstructing operation of the government-controlled wire system.

Officers of the Postal company are furious over the removal of President Mackay and his associates. Answering Mr. Burleson's action that they refused to assist wages. Secretary Deegan of the Postal, in a press interview, declared that this is "a distinct attempt to distort the facts."

Mr. Deegan said the postal chief man; "to assent to a proposition made by Burleson's operating board of the Telegraphers' Union, to which we shall have less than we earn

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"GIVE MEN A VOICE IN RUNNING MINES"

London, England, March 26.—In the interest of the safety of the mine workers should have an effective, voice in the direction of the mines is one of the recommendations contained in a report issued by the government's coal investigating commission.

Other recommendations include seven hours of work underground instead of eight, from July 16, and six hours from July 13, 1920, subject to the economic position of the industry.

The present system of ownership and control of the mines should be substituted for one of the following methods, it is recommended:

A third report by the miners' representatives on the commission recommends an increase of 30 shillings a week, a six hour day and nationalization of the mines.

The present movement of miners for improved conditions is backed by the unions of railway workers and transport workers, who have formed a triple alliance and made pledges to act together.

A month ago industrial conditions in England had a decidedly ominous aspect. Labor unrest was so widespread there appears an increasing tendency to link all disputes in one question. There does not appear to be any group of influential employers who assume to know what they want to "fight it out."

CHILDREN ON FARMS.

Washington, March 29.—In a statement on the number of children employed on farms, the children's bureau of labor says:

"Most of us think of the 'farm' as an ideal place, and no one can question the wholesomeness of much in farm life. But we have learned that it is not wise to take it for granted that all country life in America makes a child happy and healthy. It must be admitted that too much farm life interferes shockingly with the child's schooling, overtaxes its strength and impairs his future usefulness.

"Does the compulsory school attendance law protect children from heavy work and long hours in the fields? There are plenty of able and vigorous school officers who do their best to enforce the law, but even they admit that the chances developed is meager. There is always a loophole in the law which children may be piped to work."

The children's bureau shows that in 15 states children may be required at school is below five months. In Georgia the law requires only 70 days, in Mississippi it is 60 days, which may be reduced to 40 days by the school board.

Fourteen states will excuse a child from school solely for "seasonal factory," "sufficient" or "urgent" reasons, for "domestic necessity," or for cause.

In Georgia the need for agricultural labor is the only reason given to excuse children in rural districts.

STRIKE INSURANCE LATEST.

New York, March 29.—A Maryland corporation has been formed to issue strike insurance policies. The promoters have figured the scheme out to a fine point, and they think they are as sure of their ground as the scientist who predicts that the sun will rise tomorrow.

The policy will provide indemnity benefits for strikes similar to the employer. Net profits, as shown by the business records of the employer and the legal expenses for defending, if any, arising out of the strike, will be paid.

The plan can be used to smash a union, with the employer guaranteed his losses in the event of an unsuccessful injunction attorneys. The company will be formed that strike insurance company agents started the strike, but the insurance promoters will probably discover that insurance has angles they knew nothing of.

PROGRESS IN ARKANSAS.

Little Rock, Ark., March 29.—Trade unionists have finally secured the passage of a state law providing for the payment of wages of coal miners' legislation prohibits the employment of incompetent persons as mine foremen. The eight hour day law is extended to all women workers. It formerly applied only to places employing four or more women. Separate toilet facilities for the workers are required to be provided in factories and work shops and a daily and weekly record of temperatures was changed to exclude bona fide trade unions.

UPHOLDS RENT LAW.

Washington, March 28.—Chief Justice McCoy, of the District of Columbia supreme court, has upheld the rent law of the district and thus denies Washington landlords the right to raise rents or oust tenants during the war period. Justice Gould of the same court had previously held that the act was unconstitutional.

The law was passed to check rent profiteering and to stop owners from forcing tenants out of comfortable prices under threat of eviction.

COMPENSATION GAINS.

Jefferson City, Mo., March 29.—The house of representatives has passed a bill which is being urged by organized labor, designed to put the state north of the Mason and Dixon line that has refused, so far, to accept the principle of workmen's compensation.

START CO-OP. LAUNDRY.

Charleston, W. Va., March 29.—To retaliate against laundry employers who have victimized their employes, the latter have started a co-operative laundry.

REDUCE WORK DAY.

Glens Falls, N. Y., March 26.—A dispute between the Adirondack power company and its electrical workers has been settled. The employes won a reduction in hours from 12 to eight per day.

AUTOCRATIC BOSSES BREED REVOLUTION

Washington, March 28.—The autocratic handling of John J. Ogden Armour, Chicago meat packer, breeds a revolutionary spirit in this country, declared A. F. of L. Secretary Frank Morrison, in a statement on the strike of Kansas City (Mo.) street car employes. On two occasions this company has refused to accept decisions by the national war labor board and it declines to deal collectively with its 2,400 employes who are on the streets. J. Ogden Armour holds a majority of the stock of this company and Secretary Morrison says:

"This Kansas City situation illustrates the position of the American Federation of Labor on the question of social unrest: That the cause of this unrest is not to be found in more than rely on legislation and deportation.

"Mr. Armour and his associates bring joy to the heart of every believer in revolutionary ideas. The revolutionist looks upon these business men as his best recruiting agents because their hostility to any form of collective bargaining on the part of the workers makes it unnecessary for the revolutionist to prove his point that constitutional methods are of no avail.

"Mr. Armour, of course, would resent being charged with a desire to create unnecessary unrest in this country. He and associates would probably not see that whenever the American ideal of orderly processes and elemental rights are ignored by autocracy, that the revolutionist is handed his strongest weapon—practical illustration."

LABOR AGENCIES GET AID.

Washington, March 29.—The United States employment service will continue operating for 60 days in addition to the 15 authorized to remain open by Secretary of Labor Wilson. It was decided after the failure of congress to appropriate funds for this service, pleaded for months in and make impossible any aid to soldiers, war workers and others in search of employment. Only the five states to vote an appropriation to aid the service—New Jersey similar action is taken. New York is aiding through private assistance and other states are expected similar aid.

While the failure of congress to aid the service has pleased private employment agencies and certain employing interests who could not use the service to their profit, Secretary Wilson declares that "urgent necessity" for the service "still exists."

In support given the service by private citizens and organizations is cited by Secretary Wilson as evidence of popular interest in a government agency we have ever known," said Director General Densmore of the service.

SHUN WAR CLAIM AGENTS.

Washington, March 29.—Shun war claim agents is the warning issued by the war department to discharged soldiers who have failed to file claims for the $60 additional bonus which is handed out quickly by the war department when forwarded by a soldier or by a claim agent.

These claims should be sent to the zone finance officer of the department and the application should be accompanied by a certified copy of the discharge certificate or a letter by the nearest recruiting officer, a statement of the soldier's service since the declaration of war against Germany and the address to which the check should be sent.

Claims for arrears of pay due officers and enlisted men of the army for unpaid family allowances and compensation for death or disability under the war risk insurance act should be addressed to the war risk insurance, treasury department, and not to the war department.

IRON MOLDERS ADVANCED.

Washington, March 29.—The national war labor board has advanced wages of Chicago iron molders to $5 a day. The board also has advanced rates from $4.50 to $5.50 a day with the understanding that the award could be reviewed at the expiration of six months. The iron molders' union has been active upon favorably by the board.

Boston, March 29.—At a meeting of the iron molders' conference boards of Boston and vicinity, Connecticut valley and eastern New England it was decided to demand a forty-four hour week, time and one-half for overtime and double time for holidays and night work, and a minimum wage of $6.00. These rates are paid in government navy yards, arsenals and ship yards.

DENY FREE ASSEMBLAGE.

Buffalo, N. Y., March 29.—The town of Lackawanna, located near this city, has refused trade unionists the right to hold a meeting for the purpose of interesting workers in the iron and steel industry in the principles of "organized labor." The unionists charge that steel employers are behind this action and that they dominate public officials, as in western Pennsylvania.

PATTERN MAKERS GAIN.

Washington, March 29.—Buffalo, (N. Y.) pattern makers have secured a wage increase from the national war labor board. In commercial shops rates are increased 15 per cent over rates paid before the war, with a minimum of $1 an hour. The same increase also is granted government shops, but the minimum in this case shall be 90 cents. The award affects 34 large concerns.

14,000 STUNTED BABIES.

Boston, March 29.—More than 14,000 children under five years of age are underweight and lighter in weight than they ought to be, by three years' growth, according to statistics given by a local health organization, which has been started in Boston to provide nutrition clinics for delicate children.

PRINTERS RAISE WAGES.

Cleveland, March 28. — Commercial shop members of the Typographical union have raised wages from $27 to $30 a week. This makes a total increase of $5 a week in one year.

TRACKMEN UNITE.

Terre Haute, Ind., March 28.— Maintenance-of-way men employed by the Pennsylvania railroad have joined the union with a membership of over 200.

MONEY GETTERS SQUELCHED.

Washington, March 28.—Money setters at Atlantic City were planning to reap a harvest through the A. F. of L. convention in that city, next week, but have handled without gloves by officers of the American Federation of Labor.

Promoters had arranged with the central labor union to secure contributions to entertain the delegates. The plan was to circularize business men throughout the country with literature that created the impression that the A. F. of L. was behind the move. In this employers were duly informed notified the interested parties in Atlantic City they must cease using the name of the A. F. of L., and he referred to declarations by A. F. of L. conventions relative to efforts of this character.

No attention was paid to this letter, and, after taking the matter up with the executive council, Secretary Morrison went to Atlantic City and gave warning to trade unionists there that the labor movement will not stand for and the contract and return the money that has been collected or prosecution would be revoked. This ultimatum brought results, and the central labor union refused to accept the contracts, the money returned and asked the A. F. of L. officials to advise it how to devise returning the funds. Secretary Morrison appointed the mayor of Atlantic City.

PRESENT AFTER-WAR PLAN.

Madison, Wis., March 29.—At a meeting of the state federation of labor held here Sunday the following was agreed upon. The demands include an eight-hour day, the right to organize, freedom from employment, a guarantee of the right to speak, assemble and print, an educational boards, prohibition of labor injunctions and a guarantee of the initiative, referendum and recall.

U. S. LIFE INSURANCE.

Washington, March 29.—Uncle Sam has embarked in the life insurance business, it appears.

Secretary of the Treasury Glass has approved regulations governing the conversion of war risk term of life insurance policies of all war time term insurance policies of officers and sailors since the entrance of the United States into the war. When this plan takes effect it will be known as government life insurance.

The new insurance policies will have all the advantages of standard insurance issued by private companies and Secretary Glass expresses the hope that the unusual values and low premium rates will be sufficient to encourage all holders of war time term insurance policies to convert, as their financial circumstances will permit, and in any event to continue the insurance by payment of a certain portion of their present insurance.

Statements will be issued by government life insurance are payable monthly but may be paid annually, semi-annually or quarterly. The monthly premiums due the first of each month, may be paid any time during the month.

STATE COSSACKS SLIP.

Columbus, Ohio, March 29.—A state senate committee has rejected the state police bill and Ohio will have no cossacks, thanks to the militancy of the trade union movement in this state. Senator Davis made a similar attempt two years ago, and was defeated. To the claim of its friends that the bill was necessary to meet legislative session, trade unionists declare that the "call" for operation of labor will again be on deck.

REJECT "COMPANY" UNION.

Chicago, March 29.—It is stated that the three plants of the International Harvester company closed in the strike of 1918 will be opened under the "company union" plan. This is a mercenary calling and agitation for a "company union" is referred to as "fruit tramps." They have a habit of "hitting the bumps" in a place for them in the A. F. of L. and that it is not true that the federation is a "skilled craft union."

URGE LABOR AGENCIES.

Boston, March 29.—The evils of private employment agencies will be discounted by trade unionists at a legislative hearing on a bill that would place all employment agencies under state control. Representatives of workers protested against the theory that placing a man to get information that would lead to employment.

CEMENT STRIKE ENDS.

New Castle, Pa., March 28.—The strike of 450 employes of the Lehigh Portland Cement company has been settled after the 44-hour week, all new work, time and one-half for overtime and double time for holidays and nights, and a minimum wage of $6.00. These rates are paid in government navy yards, arsenals and ship yards.

DENY FREE ASSEMBLAGE.

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UNREST BREEDING CAMPS DEVELOPED BY EMPLOYERS

Chicago, March 29.—The real bolshevik are clean-cut, open employers and autocratic financiers who have a seventeenth century viewpoint, writes President Perkins of the Brotherhood of International union in the official magazine of that organization.

The trade unionist interprets present-day conditions as follows:

"There are two kinds of bolshevik. (We use that term advisedly and hereafter for convenience sake.) One is the wild-eyed and impatient radical; the other is the despotic, autocratic, greed-all employer and financier. The latter is almost wholly responsible for the breeding camps that create the bolshevik, and is more dangerous to our republican institutions. The latter is the greater menace, and by than is the former.

"After all is said, all must agree that the question of unrest and the creation of the destructive, radical element is absolutely an economic issue rather than a political issue. The men in the world over have, in its scope, is caused absolutely by low wages, long hours, and horribly miserable living conditions of especially the migratory workers and the so-called unskilled workers not yet organized. There is unrest in the republic of France, in the United Kingdom, in the empire of Russia, in the limited monarchy of Italy, in the republic of Germany, and in the republic of Switzerland, in the limited monarchy of Italy, in the republic of Germany, and in not the least, in the most glorious republic of the United States. We repeat that the cause is not the political formation, but rather that it is due almost wholly to advertising and economic conditions.

"The war which we have just passed through aroused new hopes and aspirations and accentuated righteous ambitions in the minds and the hearts of the great mass of the people here and elsewhere. The avowed purpose of America when we went into the world war was to make the world safe for democracy, self-determination, and rule of law, and justice accepted this as their purpose and nothing short of the fulfillment of these pledges and a realization of the expectations of the masses will bring about a condition amongst unrest is good, but the unrest bred of oppression and the withholding of natural rights, and justice long deferred is a menace to the peace of our and our institutions, and if not heeded will lead to a dangerous situation so far as even our own glorious country is concerned.

"The cheap-wage manufacturers are the autocratic financiers, who are directly responsible for the present unrest and who are trying to apply seventeenth century notions in so far as they can to the present day world. The legitimate, constructive trade unionist movement with the so-called bolshevik element, which is not a part of it is a plain statement of facts and not a threat. It is for the purpose if we hope to escape the inevitable consequences."

PICKETING UPHELD.

Washington, March 29.—In upholding the right of striking waiters to picket a hotel in this city, Judge Hardison of the District of Columbia supreme court issued a temporary injunction restraining the patron saint to illustrate his point that the use of an accepted word may be perfectly proper.

There are conditions, however, declared Judge Hardison, where carrying a sign constitutes disorderly conduct.

"For instance," said the court, "if a man were to step in front of a St. Patrick's parade carrying a sign that stated that St. Patrick was a fraud then he would justly be arrested because of their membership in the brotherhood. A wrecked building was in charge of a man who had hired strikebreakers. Four of these were connected with the company, hearing President Williams, are under arrest.

The wreck developed such feeling in New York that the company and its officers secured a change of venue to this place. This change was contested by the unions, but without avail after it had been granted a secret conference was held out of the presence of the company as a result counsel called to bred disorder Louis Lewis Hengstead and Surrogate Foley, judges of this county. Governor Smith was also present at the conference.

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DIVORCE RATE GOES UP.

Washington, March 29.—There is approximately one divorce to every nine marriages in the United States, according to figures compiled by the United States census bureau.

Records also show a decline in the marriage rate in 1916 was 1,050 per 100,000 population, while in 1906 the divorce rate of 112 per 100,000. The marriage rate in 1906 was 1,060 per 100,000, showing the marriage rate to be increasing considerably faster than the divorce rate.

In all states except Maine, West Virginia, South Carolina, Arkansas, Mississippi, North Dakota, South Dakota and Colorado the divorce rate was much higher in 1916 than in 1906. In 21 per cent of the cases the husband was under age and in the husband, while the husbands' rate in 1906 was 67 per cent.

Desertion is shown by the figures to have been the cause for more than 23 per cent of the divorces. Among other leading causes were cruelty, infidelity and failure to provide.

MAY RIP UP CIVIL SERVICE.

Washington, March 28.—A general upheaval of the civil service system will be inaugurated by the reclassification created by the last congress to increase the salaries of government employes in the nation's capital.

This commission is now at work, headed by Arthur Ringland Kenning, who was chairman of the labor section of the commission declares that changes are necessary.

"The fact that the merit system is applied to entrance into the service is not sufficient," said Mr. Keating. "It must extend to the entire period when an employe is on the government pay roll. Promotion ought not to be based on the will of a bureau chief or political pull. The employe should be guaranteed steady promotion and the resultant increased salary as speed and efficiency grow, that each one has an equal chance to develop their especial abilities."

WANT PRICES REVIEWED.

Washington, March 28.—The American Newspaper Publishers' association has asked the federal trade commission to review the cost of manufacturing news print paper with a view to averting maximum prices for the summer months of last year. Although the publishers told the commission that an investigation in Canada shows there was no increase in manufacturing costs, there was a decrease. The manufacturers are opposing the plan to reopen the case.

BOILER MAKERS GAIN.

Philadelphia, March 29. — Boiler Makers' union No. 241 has advanced wages to give skilled mechanics and helpers employed in construction work in the navy yard and in other shops where work brought him in contact with the harbor craft wages based on the former rate. If wages had been substantially increased. If not, the manufacturers are to hold from the harbor craft employes of the railroad administration a sufficient amount to make up the rate of wages which had been extended to all other employes of the administration."

DEMAND FREE SPEECH.

Pittsburg, Pa., March 29.—At a meeting attended by representatives of nearly 100 trade unions it was decided to give active support and assistance in the campaign to organize the steel industry and to demand the right of free speech and free assemblage.

The meeting also called special attention to McKeesport, whose mayor had refused permission to hold such a meeting.

HOSTILE PAPER IN FOLD.

Montgomery, Ala., March 29.—The Montgomery Advertiser has signed a union-shop contract with the Typographical union. The action of this newspaper has opposed organization. It conducted a "closed" shop and declared that the union would not permit the employment of a member of Typographical union.

RESIST WAGE CUT.

Atlanta, March 29.—The attempt of the Atlantic ice and coal corporation to reduce wages of its chief engineer resulted in a strike of all members of the local union of engineers employed at that plant. Other unionists took occasion to express their disapproval of wage reductions and joined in the walk out.

CARPENTERS RAISE WAGES.

Meriden, Conn., March 29.—Wages have been raised from 70 to 75 cents an hour by Carpenters' union No. 210. The signed agreement also provides for the 44-hour week, time and one-half for overtime and double time for holidays.